

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-52 are pending. Support for new claims 25-36 may be found in the specification as originally filed, for example in claims 6, 7, 8, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24, respectively. Support for new claims 37-52 may be found in the specification as originally filed, for example in claims 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18 and 21, respectively.

The Examiner requests Applicants elect species in three categories.

For Category (a), "the location of the polyolefin component," Applicants elect:

- (ii) In a separate unblended layer;

For Category (b), "the type of expansion coefficient," Applicants elect:

- (i) Humidity expansion coefficient.

For Category (c), "the type of film," Applicants elect:

- (i) Magnetic recording medium.

All of Applicants claims read on the elected Category (a), except for claim 3 and the claims dependent on claim 3 (claims 4, 9, 12 and 13).

All of Applicants claims read on the elected Category (b). It is noted that new claim 50 claims both humidity expansion coefficient and the temperature expansion coefficient conditions.

All of Applicants claims read on the elected Category (c), except for claims 22, 23, 24, 33, 34 and 35.

In the claim listing above, the term withdrawn was only used for claims that do not meet an elected category for all of the multiple dependencies. That is, a claim designator "partially

withdrawn” is not available for claims that contain multiple dependencies where some of the dependencies are within the scope of the elected subject matter and some of the dependencies are outside the scope of the elected subject matter.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner’s election of species requirement. As noted by the Examiner, the instant application is a national stage of a PCT application. The Examiner states that the instant claims do not contain a common “special technical feature” because “an oriented film containing polyester and a high melting point polyolefin” is known in the art. However, Applicants’ claims recite a thin walled (1-10  $\mu\text{m}$ ) biaxially oriented film comprising an aromatic polymer and a polyolefin having a high melting point (230 to 280  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) and a claimed ratio. Applicants respectfully submit that no prior art shows such a biaxially oriented film. The Examiner cannot ignore claim recitations in evaluating whether a common “special technical feature” exists.

Further, one of the criteria for a proper election of species requirement is that there must be a serious burden on the Examiner if restriction is not required. Applicants respectfully submit that there is no undue burden to search all of the species together. For example, the Examiner has not set forth how the search involving the species of Category (b) would be an undue burden. All the claims read on both species of Category (b). The humidity expansion coefficient and the temperature expansion coefficient may overlap. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that Applicants have presented a reasonable number of species. Likewise for the Categories (a) and (c).

If any points remain at issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the local exchange number listed below.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,  
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